Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 RSC-01 /043 W

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R 111720Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4242

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

CONFIDENTIAL CAPE TOWN 0874

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, SF, MZ

SUBJECT: VORSTER'S VIEW ON MOZAMBIQUE

- 1. DURING CONVERSATION, DEC. 10, MOSTLY DEVOTED TO RHODESIA TALKS (SEPTEL), I ASKED PRIME MINISTER VORSTER ABOUT SA RELATIONS MOZAMBIQUE. VORSTER REVEALED THAT SAG HAD RECEIVED REQUEST FROM MOZAMBIQUE (CHANNEL OF REQUEST WAS UNSPECIFIED) FOR LOAN OF TWENTY LOCOMOTIVES FOR USE ON MOZAMBIQUE RAILWAYS. SAG DOING WHAT IT CAN TO COMPLY, THOUGH PM THINKS THAT IT WILL BE ABLE TO MUSTER ONLY TEN OR SO.
- 2. VORSTER RELAYED TO ME MALAWIAN PRESIDENT BANDA'S ASSESS-MENT OF MOZAMBIQUE PERSONALITIES. BANDA RECENTLY TOLD HIM THAT ALTHOUGH CHISSANO IS A DEDICATED MARXIST, HE IS AN INTELLIGENT PRAGMATIST AND GOOD ADMINISTRATOR. BANDA TRUSTS HIM. ACCORDING TO VORSTER, BANDA THINKS MACHEL FEARS TO RETURN TO MOZAMBIQUE BECAUSE HE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ESTABLISH HIMSELF AS UNDISPUTED FRELIMO LEADER THERE. VORSTER STATED CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT SAG HAD NOTED THAT DOS SANTOS HAD NOT TRAVELED WITH

MACHEL TO EASTERN EUROPE. PM'S COMMENTS INDICATED HE WOULD OBVIOUSLY NOT BE UPSET IF DOS SANTOS' ABSENCE FROM EUROPEAN TRIP INDICATED A DEMOTION FOR HIM.

3. VORSTER STATED THAT HE IS PLEASED ABOUT CURRENT SAG/MOZAMBIQUE RELATIONS AND HOPES TWO COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO LIVE IN PEACE. HE IS, HOWEVER, WARY ABOUT THE FUTURE AND CONCERNED THAT FRELIMO LEADERS' "RESOLUTIONARY, COMMUNISTIC BACKGROUND" MIGHT CAUSE THEM TO PROMOTE PROBLEMS FOR SOUTH AFRICA. HURD

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Subject: VORSTER'S VIEW ON MOZAMBIQUE

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To: STATE

Type: TE

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